

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action a rejection of the claims was entered based on 35 U.S.C. 112 as result of the use of two phrases; namely, "difference of water head", and "the direction of gravity out of two sides having a largest area", on the grounds that those phrases were indefinite. By this response, however, Applicants have amended the claims to delete those phrases, and the express the invention in alternative wording. Accordingly, it is believed that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112 has been overcome.

The claims were also rejected as being obvious in view of the Yamazaki and Kaneko references. In this regard, Applicants' invention is depicted in Fig. 1 of the drawings of the present application, wherein the bag for containing the liquid for the liquid ejection head has two opposite sides and wherein the first side (3), which faces in a direction opposite to the direction of gravity, is rigidly held, at least partly, as illustrated. Thus, as a result of this structure the liquid head between the bag and the ejection port does not change as the liquid is discharged from the bag.

In distinction from this claimed invention is the prior art as shown in Fig. 2 of Applicants' drawings and as shown in the Yamazaki patent relied on as a rejecting reference in the Office Action. In both of those instances, it is the lower face of the bag (i.e., facing in the direction of gravity) which is rigidly held.

For these reasons, it is clear that Yamazaki in Fig. 4 thereof, is not even as close, as prior art, as Fig. 2 of Applicants' drawings, and that Yamazaki teaches an opposite mounting arrangement as compared to Applicants' claims.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 and 2 are allowable over the prior art, and the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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